

SENATE BILL 3356

By Kyle

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 51; Title 49, Chapter 17 and Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to educational programs and purposes funded by net lottery proceeds. This act makes appropriations for educational programs and purposes funded by net lottery proceeds for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2009, and July 1, 2010.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1.

(a) Any student attending an eligible postsecondary institution and receiving a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, Tennessee HOPE scholarship for nontraditional students or Tennessee HOPE access grant during the 2010-2011 academic year shall be awarded a supplemental bridge grant. Such grant shall be awarded only for the 2010-2011 academic year.

(b)

(1) Subject to the amounts appropriated by this act and any law relating to a shortfall in funds available for postsecondary financial assistance from the net proceeds of the state lottery, a student receiving a Tennessee HOPE scholarship or a Tennessee HOPE scholarship for nontraditional students and attending an eligible four-year postsecondary institution or attending an eligible postsecondary institution included in § 49-4-914(c) shall be awarded a bridge grant of seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750) per semester for attendance during the fall or spring semesters of the 2010-2011 academic year.

(2) Subject to the amounts appropriated by this act and any law relating to a shortfall in funds available for postsecondary financial assistance from the

net proceeds of the state lottery, a student receiving a Tennessee HOPE scholarship or a Tennessee HOPE scholarship for nontraditional students and attending an eligible two-year postsecondary institution, excluding two-year eligible postsecondary institutions included in § 49-4-914(c), shall be awarded a bridge grant of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350) per semester for attendance during the fall or spring semesters of the 2010-2011 academic year.

(3) A student receiving a Tennessee HOPE access grant and attending an eligible postsecondary institution during the fall or spring semesters of the 2010-2011 academic year shall be awarded a bridge grant per semester equal to fifty percent (50%) of the amount of the supplemental bridge grant per semester awarded Tennessee HOPE scholarship students at the eligible postsecondary institution the Tennessee HOPE access grant student is attending.

SECTION 2. The grant program established by Section 1 shall be administered by the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation, which shall be responsible for determination of eligibility of students and for distribution of funds appropriated by the general assembly for grants awarded under the program. In the event the sum appropriated pursuant to Section 4 is insufficient to fund fully the grant created by Section 1, then the Tennessee student assistance corporation is authorized to review and reduce the amounts to be awarded for such grant pro rata.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-940, is amended by deleting subsection (b) in its entirety.

SECTION 4.

(a) All funds in the energy efficient schools council fund on the effective date of this act that were transferred from the lottery for education account under Item 5, Section 52 of Chapter 1203 of the Public Acts of 2008 and that have not been obligated or

expended as of the effective date of this act shall be transferred from the energy efficient schools council fund to the lottery for education account prior to June 30, 2010.

(b) From the lottery for education account, there is appropriated a sum sufficient for the supplemental bridge grant program created in Section 1 of this act; provided, however, that the appropriation for this purpose shall not exceed the sum transferred pursuant to subsection (a).

SECTION 5. Section 4(b) shall take effect July 1, 2010, the public welfare requiring it; all remaining sections of this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.